

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. The East German delegation to Stalin's funeral spent three days in a Moscow hotel. Only Walter Ulbricht and Otto Grotewohl attended the meeting of West European Communist leaders which was presided over by Nikita S. Khrushchev. Georgiy M. Malenkov and Panteleimon K. Ponomarenko also appeared at the meeting. Neither the Chinese nor the Satellite delegations participated in the conference. The statements of Stalin regarding the possibility and necessity of co-existence were reaffirmed.
2. Ulbricht was reportedly surprised that he was admitted to the West European meeting, but not to the second conference which was attended by the Chinese and Satellite leaders. Outside of this meeting, Ulbricht had only a short personal conversation with Malenkov on the evening of the funeral.
3. Upon his return from Moscow, Ulbricht announced at a Politburo meeting that the East German government would be reorganized along Soviet lines. Following the example of the USSR, responsibility would be concentrated. The "prestige-posts" of the non-Communist Deputy Prime Ministers would have to be abolished if East Germany is to have a decisive voice in the Soviet bloc.
4. Although no names were mentioned at the Politburo meeting, it is believed that Ulbricht is to become Prime Minister, and that Grotewohl and Wilhelm Zaisser will be Deputy Prime Ministers. Grotewohl will also become Minister of Foreign Affairs, while Zaisser will hold the Interior, Defense and State Security portfolios.<sup>1</sup>

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1. Comment: Although possibly true, this prediction on the reorganization of the East German cabinet should be viewed with some skepticism. This applies particularly to Grotewohl's position and to a lesser extent to Ulbricht as Prime Minister and Zaisser as both Minister of Defense and Interior.

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